

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Replace the abstract originally provided on the cover sheet of the PCT application with the new abstract as follows: A new abstract numbered page 18 is enclosed for the last page of the application following the claims.

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A multi-stage optical amplifier for a fiber-optic transmission system, in particular, an amplifier having a multi-stage configuration that allows an optimization of its performance with respect to noise, gain and bandwidth. The multi-stage amplifier has a first amplifying stage including a rare-earth doped optical active fiber; a second amplifying stage connected to the first amplifying stage, the second amplifying stage including a tellurite-based active fiber doped with a rare earth element; and a third amplifying stage connected with the second amplifying stage, the third amplifying stage including a silica-based fiber.

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